

BWAA eNews

November 2008 Newsletter

QUICK LINKS
[BWAA Web site](#)

YOUR 2009 MEMBERSHIP DUES ARE DUE

if you haven't yet renewed your membership for 2009, please do so ASAP. Renewing prior to the end of the year will help immensely as outgoing Executive Director Steve James closes the books prior to handing over the organizational duties to incoming ED Bill Vint on January 1.

In case you have forgotten, dues are \$20. If you need a membership application form to update your personal information (new email address or cell phone number) you can find the [membership application](#) on the BWAA website.

METROPOLITAN BOWLING WRITERS LANDGRAF AWARD GOES TO BOJÉ

USBC President Jeff

BWAA WILL MISS THE SERVICES OF EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR STEVE JAMES



Dick Evans
BWAA President

The Bowling Writers Association of America has been blessed to have some exceptional executive directors during my 40 year association with the BWAA.

The late Jim Fitzgerald was an outstanding writer and good BWAA executive director.

The late Mike Hennessy was exceptional at every thing he touched, including serving as BWAA executive director when I previously was president of the BWAA.

Steve James steps down as executive director of the BWAA on Dec. 31 and I will miss him in many ways.

For example, I never beat him in tennis although I may have saved his life by loaning him my extra hat when we played a match during the Tournament of Americas under a broiling Miami sun. Although I wanted to win, I didn't want to win by default if Steve died of heat stroke.

I also will miss him as our tour guide in Paris where the American team practiced before heading for London and the 1975 FIQ Tournament.

I will miss his cool demeanor and knowledge when he served as executive director of the ABC Hall of Fame from 1977 to 2003. I knew he always had the answers to my many questions.

And I will miss the leadership he brought when the NWBW and old BWAA merged three years ago. This has been a difficult transition for some but Steve made it comfortable for all with his knowledge and logic.

He was and is a man with solid leadership and friendly persuasion and will be missed.

Bill Vint will have big shoes to fill...probably about a size 13 since Steve always stood tall during every crisis.

I also want to congratulate one of our veteran members, Tom Kouros, for being elected into the United States Bowling Congress Hall of Fame. It was and still is fantastic when any BWAA member is inducted into any bowling hall of fame.

Many of you probably are making plans to attend the USBC Convention in Reno and I want to reiterate that the Eldorado Hotel

Bojé was recipient of the Metropolitan Bowling Writers Association's highest award, the Bill Landgraf Award of Excellence, during the organization's 46th annual awards dinner Nov. at Trump's Taj Mahal in Atlanta City. <

The dinner was part of the East Coast Bowling Centers Convention. Other honorees included: Kim Terrell and Norm Duke, National Bowlers of the Year; Jennifer Swanson and Johnny Petraglia, Metropolitan Bowlers of the Year, and Joe Salleroli, Special Service Award.

NOMINATIONS FOR BWAA AWARDS BEING ACCEPTED

If you would like to nominate a deserving person for either the BWAA Hall of Fame or BWAA Meritorious Service Awards, please submit a resume for your candidate ASAP. [Hazel McLeary](#) chairs the Hall of Fame Committee. [Bob Cosgrove](#) chairs the Meritorious Service Committee. Criteria for both awards is posted on the [Awards](#) page on the BWAA website.

will throw the BWAA a breakfast on Wednesday April 29 at 7:30 a.m. I plan to invite Jeff Bojé, Kevin Dornberger, John Berglund, Jim Sturm, Fred Schreyer and Gregg Carano (general manager of the Eldorado) to attend and say a few words, so bring your pens and notebooks.

If you have not made room arrangements, I urge you to stay at the Eldorado. Remember, the USBC Convention will be held in Reno again the following year (2010).

Before closing, I want to tell all our members that a few of our members thought the Kegel Bowler of the Month survey that the BWAA runs is a waste of time since many of the top pros don't pay any attention to it. That may or may not be true, but read the letter below from Lisa Earnest, mother of September BOM winner Josie Earnest, if you want to know how some winners feel about monthly honor:

"I wanted to say thanks for the wonderful plaque (BWAA) sent to Josie for being named Kegel Bowler of the Month. She has not seen it in person yet - I sent a photograph of it to her. It is a great honor for her to be recognized with this award. She is very committed to the sport of bowling and was extremely pleased that all of her hard work and dedication helped her earn this award that has been received by so many outstanding bowlers. Once again, thanks for recognizing her with this award."

Dick Evans, BWAA President

BWAA's KOUROS ELECTED TO USBC HALL OF FAME



Long-time BWAA member Tom Kouros of Deer Park, Ill., an internationally-acclaimed author and bowling instructor, has been elected to the United States Bowling Congress Hall of Fame by the USBC Hall of Fame Committee.

Also elected were Gene Stus of Allen Park, Mich., in the Veterans category and Lowell Rothschild, a Tucson, Ariz., attorney who played significant roles with the American Bowling Congress, International Bowling Museum and Hall of Fame, and Maccabiah USA Sports for Israel organization.

All three, along with any others who may be elected from the Superior Performance ballot, will be inducted during the USBC Annual Meeting in Reno in late April.

Kouros' career blossomed from pinboy to competitor, proprietor, author and world-class bowling instructor in his native Chicago where he founded the Institute of Professional Bowling Instruction and authored a pair of best-selling books: "Par Bowling" and "Par Bowling: The Challenge." He has served as a columnist for Bowlers Journal International for more than 30 years and has personally coached some of the sport's top stars, both in the United States and internationally. Kouros will celebrate his 82nd birthday on Nov. 19.

"I'm tickled pink. I never thought I'd get in," Kouros said. "Guys like me are too outspoken; we rub some people the wrong way, but I've

ALL BWAA COMMITTEES HAVE BEEN APPOINTED

A complete list of BWAA committees is now posted on our website. Review the [list](#) to see if you are assigned to serve. If you are not listed and would like to volunteer your services, please send a note to the committee chairman or President [Dick Evans](#).

SEPTEMBER, OCTOBER KEGEL BOWLERS OF THE MONTH



BWAA has recognized Josie Earnest (above) of Vandalia, Ill., who starred for Junior Team USA in the PABCON Youth Championships in September, and Norm Duke (below) of Clermont, Fla., who became the first player in PBA history to win three consecutive "major" titles when he won the PBA World Championship in October, as Kegels Bowlers of the

always been a guy who'd tell you if I thought your nose was too big. You do a lot of things and you don't know if they're appreciated. This wipes that whole slate clean. I'm very happy."

Kouros, a founding member and past president of the Mid-America Bowling Writers, was recognized for his pioneering coaching efforts as recipient of BWAA's Rip Van Winkle Award in 1997, was presented the Flowers for the Living Award in 2001 and received the World Bowling Writers Lifetime Coaching Achievement Award in 2002.

MABW HONORS SPIGNERS, JOHNSON, ASBATY

The Mid-America Bowling Writers have honored three BWAA members as winners of their major 2007 awards. Barb and Bill Spigner of Vernon Hills, Ill., are recipients of the Sam Weinstein Distinguished Service Award and Bob Johnson of Chicago is MABW's Golden Quill Award winner.

The MABW also selected BWAA member Diandra Asbaty of Chicago and Rhino Page of Topeka, Kan., as their 2007 Bowlers of the Year.

The "Sammy" is presented to the person who has distinguished him/herself by extraordinary devotion to bowling. The Golden Quill is presented to a journalist who has distinguished him/herself for excellence in reporting the sport of bowling.

Bill Spigner is a three-time champion on the PBA Tour while Barb worked in Brunswick's marketing department. They are former owners of Hawthorn Lanes in Vernon Hills where Bill also operated the pro shop and continues to serve as a USBC Gold Level Coach. Hawthorn Lanes is home to one of the state's most successful youth programs and has hosted numerous tournaments including PBA Regional and National stops and ABC World Team Challenge events.

Johnson was Founding Editor of Bowling Industry magazine for five years. A long-time contributor to Bowlers Journal, he moved to Chicago in 2000 to serve as International Editor and was promoted to Editor in January 2008. He ranks third all-time in the US Bowler national writing competition and won another eight awards in the former PBA writing competition.

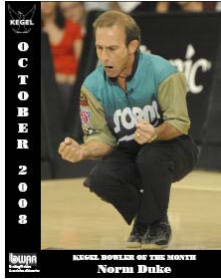
Asbaty won MABW's Female Bowler of the Year honor for a record eighth time after winning a gold medal in doubles at the 2007 Pan Am Games, and capturing the World Ranking Masters title. She finished second in the USBC Queens and won the PBA Women's Series event in Wyoming, Mich.

BWAA MAIL A GRAPHIC TOURNAMENT READY TO ROLL



BWAA's second annual Mail A Graphic fundraiser bowling tournament is set for competition Feb. 15-21. The event is open to BWAA members and the general bowling public, and will raise money for BWAA's designated

Month.



BWAA'S BOYKINS TO HEAD THE NATIONAL BOWLING ASSOCIATION



BWAA member Dr. Michael Boykins of Ridgeland, Miss., has been selected president of The National Bowling Association, a thriving member organization since 1939. Boykins' mission is to alert more writers and bowlers about the TNBA's organization and benefits.

ACT NOW TO AVOID COSTLY TELEMARKETER CELL PHONE CALLS

This just in from BJI CyberReport: all cell phone numbers were

charities. Last year's event raised more than \$740 for our charities.

For a \$10 entry fee (per player, per event), bowlers can compete in four divisions - two women's divisions and two men's divisions - with an optional scratch division for \$5. There is also a "BWAA members only" event to replace the traditional convention week bowling tournament. Players will receive handicap of 90% from 230 in each division except for optional scratch.

The BWAA member who submits the greatest number of entries will receive a prize and special recognition at the BWAA breakfast social in Reno on April 29 at the Eldorado Hotel Casino. Be sure to print extra copies of the entry form for your league members, teammates, co-workers and fellow board members.

Here's an [entry form](#) or send an email request to: [Joellyn Rinnander](mailto:Joellyn.Rinnander). Entry deadline is Feb. 13.

WRITING, ASSOCIATION MEDIA AWARDS ENTRY DEADLINES ARE LOOMING

For those of you who plan to enter the annual US Bowler Writing Contest (features, editorials, news stories, photos), the entry deadline is Jan. 31. Complete rules are posted on bowlingwriters.com (under the News section) and on bowl.com.

The same entry deadline applies to the US Bowler Association Media Awards Contest, which is designed for USBC local and state associations only. Categories are best newsletter, best Web site and best overall public relations program. See bowlingwriters.com or the "[Associations](#)" page on bowl.com for entry information.

GIVE SOME BOWLING FUN FOR THANKSGIVING

BWAA member Mary Lynly is always promoting bowling. Even to the little kids who traipsed to her front door for Halloween treats. Mary wrote:

"Thought I'd share what I did for the crumb crunchers for Halloween. I got my local bowling center to give me 50 free games of bowling cards and I taped each one to a small candy bars. When (the kids) came to my door, I let them (and their folks, if they were there) know what it was and they all were elated.

"They ran back to their friends or family and said, 'We can go bowling!' I gave all 50 away and ran out for the last few. Tuck this away for next year. It's a great way to promote bowling and I think your proprietor would go along with it."

QUICK NOTES ABOUT 2009 PLANS

We're working with BPAA, USBC and other industry friends to

released from telephone companies to telemarketers on Nov. 1 and you will may soon receive unsolicited sales calls that you will be charged for.

To protect yourself from these "spam" telemarketers, call the National DO NOT CALL number from your cell phone: 888-382-1222 and follow the simple instructions which will block your cell number for five years. You must call from the cell phone number you want to have blocked.

(P.S. - Incoming Executive Director Bill Vint confirms this registration program is valid).

CHANGE OF ADDRESS

Take note: Dave and Peggie DeLorenzo have moved into a new residence at 20967 Blacksmith Forge Drive, Estero, FL 33928.

A complete membership directory is on the BWAA website. You will need a password from Executive Director [Steve James](#) to open the file.

finalize our 2009 plans, but for the record:

1. Most BWAA board members will attend the PBA 50th Anniversary Gala and Tournament of Champions in Las Vegas in January.
2. As part of the USBC Convention, the Eldorado Hotel Casino in Reno will host a BWAA membership breakfast on Wednesday, April 29 at 7:30 AM. BWAA also will run its annual fund-raiser during the convention. This year's featured item: music boxes (donations are welcome). The Eldorado group code for the bowling writers in April is JBWA09.
3. Our annual meeting will be held on Tuesday, June 23, in Las Vegas. The board and Council of Life Members will meet on June 22. Our annual awards dinner will take place Tuesday evening. BPAA and USBC are working together to lock up a block of 35 rooms for BWAA members at the Luxor, next door to the Mandalay Bay where most Bowl Expo events will take place. We will give everyone a contact name and phone number for room reservations as soon as we can.

HAPPY 90th BIRTHDAY, PERSH



Long-time member Persh Rohrer (Ravenna, Ohio, Record-Courier) celebrated his 90th birthday on Nov. 11 and he's still writing his bowling column every Sunday. Former Akron Alley Cat editor Dave Miller notes Persh is believed to be the oldest active newspaper writer in Ohio...and Record-Courier sports editor Tom Nader wrote a terrific tribute to Persh on his birthday. Use this [link](#) to read Nader's tribute.

[Forward email](#)

Email Marketing by

✉ **SafeUnsubscribe®**

This email was sent to kwatson@royalancestry.org by sjames2652@wi.rr.com.
[Update Profile/Email Address](#) | Instant removal with [SafeUnsubscribe™](#) | [Privacy Policy](#).



Bowling Writers Association of America | 8501 N. Manor Lane | Fox Point | WI | 53217